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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/816,049	BARRUS, JOHN W.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Tran A. Quoc	2176	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _13 September 2007_.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) _1-64 and 66-77_ is/are pending in the application.

　　4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) _1-64, 66 and 67_ is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

　　Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

　　Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

　　a)☐ All　b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

　　　1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

　　　2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

　　　3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

　　* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
　　Paper No(s)/Mail Date _09/13/2007_.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
　　Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

This is a Final Office Action on the merits. This action is responsive to Amendments/Remarks, which was filed on 09/13/2007.

Claims 1-64, and 66-77 are currently pending in the case, with claims 1, 33, 34, and 61 being the independent claims. Claim 65 was previously canceled. Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 33, and 34.

The terminal disclaimer for copending patent application number 10/665,097 was filed on 09-14-2006 and was approved on 9/21/2006. Accordingly, the double patenting rejection was previously withdrawn in the Office Action dated 12/04/2006.

Effective filing date is 03-31-2004, CIP of 10/404,916 filed 03-31-2003 (Assignee: Ricoh).

Information Disclosure Statement

A signed and dated copy of applicant's IDS, which was filed on 09/13/2007 are attached to this Office Action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> *(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.*

Claims 1-29, 31-64, and 66-77 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

unpatentable over **Johnson,** et al. (US005267303A, issued November 30, 1993)

[hereinafter "Johnson"], in view of **Shutt,** et al. (US 20060126101A1, filed February 06,

2003) [hereinafter "Shutt"].

*Regarding **independent claim** 1*, Johnson teaches: (as amended)

A computer-implemented method comprising: receiving an image of

an overview of a collection that comprises a first plurality of indication

areas associated with documents and a second plurality of indication areas

associated with actions; identifying at least one action set forth in the

image;

(See Johnson fig. 7-8 and col. 17 line 20 through col. 18 line 10, illustrating form 500,

list content, categories, and into the following form section(s) item 508, that are included

plurality of check boxes item 520, 522, 524, and 526 associate to the plurality of check

boxes of "into the following form section(s) item 528, 530, and 532 for manipulation of a

collection through a plurality of check boxes indicating documents and a plurality of

check boxes associated with actions.

Using the broadest reasonable interpretation, the examiner reads the claimed *an

image of an overview of a collection documents* as equivalent to form 500, to access

documents that are stored on a computer, and processing the documents as indicated,

and the claimed *indication areas* is equivalent to plurality of check boxes indication area

as taught by Johnson.

Also, see Johnson col. 16 lines 20-25, teaching a Starter Form 500 can be

created in advance by a user through a form editor user interface provided by windows

instructions 304. The form editor can allow the user to create a form with one or more

sections, each for requesting a respective type of transaction, such as Send, Retrieve,

Store, List Contents, and Delete.

In addition, it is noted that the term "*collection*," and the related term "*sub-

collection,*" are not specially defined in the application. From the specification and

claims, the Examiner believes the terms to have been intended by the applicants to be

used in their usual and ordinary meaning, such as: "a group of objects or works to be

seen or kept together." "The American Heritage College dictionary," definition 2 of

"collection," Houghton Mifflin Company, Fourth Edition, 2002. As used in the context of

a computer or computer stored documents, the term "collection" is believed by the

Examiner to be the same as a file. See, "Microsoft Computer Dictionary," Fifth Edition,

Microsoft Press, 2002, definition of "file" as follows, in relevant part: "A complete named

collection of information, such as a program, a set of data used by a program, or a user-

created document." Accordingly, as used in this application, the limitation term

"collection," including a "sub-collection," will be read consistent with the definition of a

computer "file" for the remainder of this Office Action.

In addition under the broadest reasonable interpretation of the claim consistent

with the Appellant Specification, such as "using collection coversheets with check

boxes" is disclosed. The collection coversheet may use thumbnails to represent

documents and optionally may have titles, which are unrelated to their filenames. In one

embodiment, a user selects one or more check boxes on a collection coversheet to

identify, by location on the coversheet, target documents within a previously stored

collection of documents." see the Applicant Specification at Page 9 Par 18. The claimed

"claimed **indication areas"** is reasonably interpreted equivalent to "check boxes".

Accordingly, as used in this application, the limitation "claimed **indication**

areas," will be read as "***check boxes***" for the remainder of this Office Action.

Fig. 7

502 *504*

| P▲ | Starter Form | ID |

506

Security Code ⌐ A ⌐ B ⌐ C ⌐ D

520 *522*

List Contents ⌐ Doc. Index ⌐ Recipients

524 *526*

Categories ⌐ All Documents ⌐ Category A

508

Into The Following Form Section (s) *532*

528 ⌐ Retrieve ⌐ Send ⌐ Delete

530

Return Address

☐☐☐ ☐☐☐ ☐☐☐☐

510

500

Fig. 7

Fig. 8

| P▲ | MM/DD/YY HH:MM | ID |

Send

Write - in Recipient: *592*

590 [_____] ⌐ Add To Recipient Index

594 ☐☐☐ ☐☐☐ ☐☐☐☐

552

Documents *602* *604*

600 ⌐ Doc A ⌐ Doc B ⌐ Doc C

556

Options *612* *614*

610 ⌐ Copy Self ⌐ Send Time A ⌐ Show All

558

Cover Note : [_____]

560

620 *550*

Fig. 8

<u>In addition, Johnson does not explicitly teach, but Shutt teaches:</u>

identifying at least one document, wherein the identifying the at least

one action based on the second plurality of the indication areas in the

image,

(See Shutt at Page 5 Para 66, discloses using barcodes sheets for identification of

documents, the system enables the user to generate barcode sheets that instruct the

system to take A PREDEFINE ACTION associated with a folder and/or document in the

repository.)

and the identifying the at least one document is performed based on

the first plurality of the indication areas in the image; and performing the at

least one action on the at least one document in response to the identifying

the at least one action and the at least one document from the image.

(See Shutt para 67, teaching "batch" coversheet may be used in conjunction with

"document separator" coversheets.

Also, see Shutt para 59, teaching a transaction party may submit a document to

the repository in any suitable format, for example an image or other electronic file

generated by fax, scan or electronic download. For each document, the transaction

party provides a document type and destination folder, although additional information

may also be provided. The transaction party may submit the document image in a multi-

page TIFF format, optionally using bar codes to provide required information such as

the document type and the destination folder.

Also, see Shutt para 62, teaching a single multi-page TIFF file may include

multiple documents. In such a file, each document is identified by a separate bar code, which may be printed directly on the first page of the document or may be located on a separate coversheet immediately preceding the first page of the document. Accordingly, indexing process 22, responsively to the information provided by the bar codes, separates the file into individual document images for storage in database.

Also, see Shutt fig. 4 and 6 and para 64-66, shows in FIG. 4, from that screen, the user checks desired document types 38 and clicks on a submit link 42, which causes the fax coversheets shown in FIG. 5, to be generated in the browser. At that point, the user simply prints the coversheets from their browser. Then using barcodes sheets for identification of documents, the system enables the user to generate barcode sheets that instruct the system to take a predefined action associated with a folder and/or document in the repository. For example, a user can generate a barcode sheet that instructs the system to send an email notification indicating that a particular folder contains all documents necessary for the business transaction. This type of barcode sheet is referred to as an "action barcode sheet" and is typically included as the last page of a fax containing documents and coversheet.

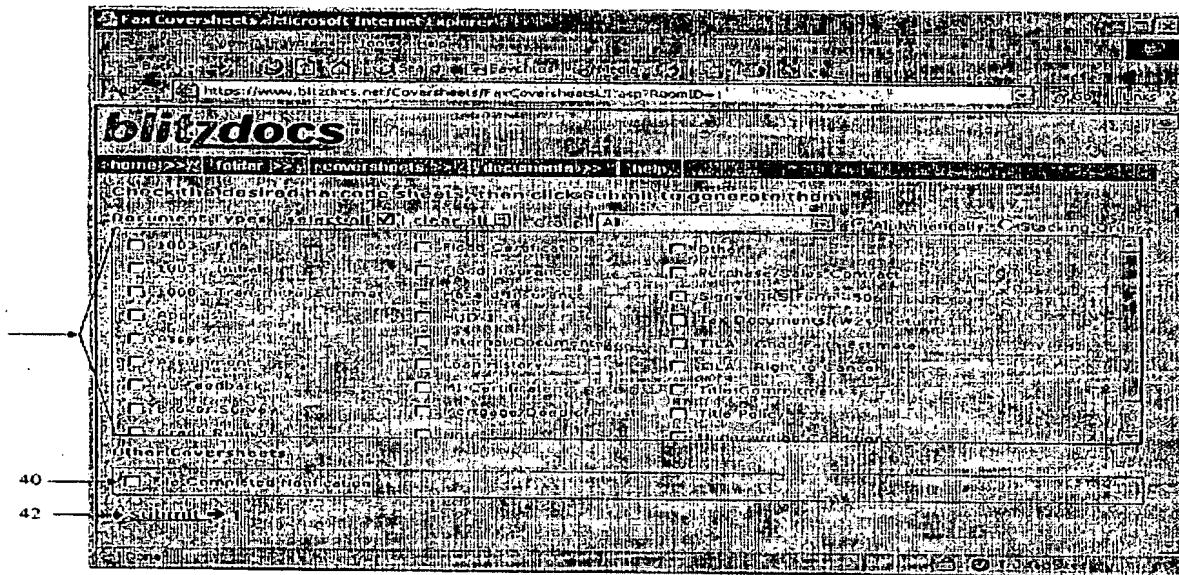Figure 4   Screenshot of the Fax Coversheets Generation Page

40
42

Figure 6   Screenshot of an Example Scanning Coversheet

Folder Complete Notification

Print this page and include it as the last page of a scan to send
notification that the folder contains all required documents

Mortgage Number   555
Applicant Last Name Doe

50

Under the broadest reasonable interpretation of the claim consistent with the

Appellant Specification, such as "using collection coversheets with check boxes is

disclosed. The collection coversheet may use thumbnails to represent documents and

optionally may have titles, which are unrelated to their filenames. In one embodiment, a

user selects one or more check boxes on a collection coversheet to identify, by location

on the coversheet, target documents within a previously stored collection of

documents." see the Applicant Specification at Page 9 Para 18.

Accordingly, as used in this application, the limitation " **indication areas**," is

reasonably interpreted equivalent to "*check boxes*" for the remainder of this Office

Action.

Also, Using the broadest reasonable interpretation, the examiner equates the

claimed **indication areas** as equivalent to each document is identified by a separate

bar code as taught by Shutt. And also discloses in the current application specification,

using a 2-D bar code representation of a DRI allows for automated access to the

collection without requiring the user to manually enter the location (see current

application specification Page 30 para 93).)

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Johnson's Starter form 500 of fig.7-8, to access

documents that are stored on a computer, and processing the documents as indicated,

to include a means of identifying at least one document, wherein the identifying the at

least one action based on the second plurality of check boxes and the identifying the at

least one document based on the first plurality of check boxes is performed using a

single image; and performing the at least one action on the at least one document in

response to the identifying the at least one action and the at least one document as

taught by Shutt. One of the ordinary skills in the art would have been motivated to

modify this combination, because they are from the same field of endeavor of batch

coversheet (GUI) for identifying and pressing stored document, and enables the user to

generate barcode sheets that instruct the system to take a predefined action associated

with a folder and/or document in the repository (see Shutt para 66).

Regarding **independent claim 33,** (as amended)

the rejection of claim 1 is fully incorporated and is similarly rejected along the

same rationale. In addition Johnson teaches:

receiving a document index image of an overview of a collection and,

(See Johnson fig. 7-8 and col. 17 line 20 through col. 18 line 10, illustrating form 500,

list content, categories, and into the following form section(s) item 508, that are included

plurality of check boxes item 520, 522, 524, and 526 associate to the plurality of check

boxes of "into the following form section(s) item 528, 530, and 532 for manipulation of a

collection through a plurality of check boxes indicating documents and a plurality of

check boxes associated with actions.

Using the broadest reasonable interpretation, the examiner reads the *claimed an*

image of an overview of a collection documents as equivalent to form 500, to access

documents that are stored on a computer, and processing the documents as indicated

as taught by Johnson.)

In addition, Johnson does not explicitly teach, but Shutt teaches:

a machine readable pointer identifying the collection;

(See Shutt para 67, teaching "batch" coversheet may be used in conjunction with

"document separator" coversheets.

Also, see Shutt para 62, teaching a single multi-page TIFF file may include

multiple documents. In such a file, each document is identified by a separate bar code,

which may be printed directly on the first page of the document or may be located on a

separate coversheet immediately preceding the first page of the document. Accordingly,

indexing process 22, responsively to the information provided by the bar codes,

separates the file into individual document images for storage in database.

and performing the action on the document in response to identifying the

action and the document,

(See Shutt at Page 5 Para 66, discloses using barcodes sheets for identification of

documents, the system enables the user to generate barcode sheets that instruct the

system to take A PREDEFINE ACTION associated with a folder and/or document in the

repository.)

wherein each of the action and the document is identified for each of the

marked check boxes on the document index image.

(See Shutt at Page 5 Para 66, discloses using barcodes sheets for identification of

documents, the system enables the user to generate barcode sheets that instruct the

system to take A PREDEFINE ACTION associated with a folder and/or document in the

repository.

Also, See Shutt para 67, teaching "batch" coversheet may be used in conjunction with "document separator" coversheets.

Also, see Shutt para 59, teaching a transaction party may submit a document to the repository in any suitable format, for example an image or other electronic file generated by fax, scan or electronic download. For each document, the transaction party provides a document type and destination folder, although additional information may also be provided. The transaction party may submit *the document image in a multi-page TIFF format,* optionally using bar codes to provide required information such as the document type and the destination folder.

Also, see Shutt para 62, teaching a single multi-page TIFF file may include multiple documents. In such a file, each document is identified by a separate bar code, which may be printed directly on the first page of the document or may be located on a separate coversheet immediately preceding the first page of the document. Accordingly, indexing process 22, responsively to the information provided by the bar codes, separates the file into individual document images for storage in database.

Also, see Shutt fig. 4 and 6 and para 64-66, shows in FIG. 4, from that screen, the user checks desired document types 38 and clicks on a submit link 42, which causes the fax coversheets shown in FIG. 5, to be generated in the browser. At that point, the user simply prints the coversheets from their browser. Then using barcodes sheets for identification of documents, the system enables the user to generate barcode sheets that instruct the system to take a predefined action associated with a folder and/or document in the repository. For example, a user can generate a barcode sheet

that instructs the system to send an email notification indicating that a particular folder

contains all documents necessary for the business transaction. This type of barcode

sheet is referred to as an "action barcode sheet" and is typically included as the last

page of a fax containing documents and coversheet.

Using the broadest reasonable interpretation, the examiner equates the claimed

a machine-readable pointer, and check boxes is equivalent to each document is

identified by a separate bar code as taught by Shutt. And also discloses in the current

application specification, using a 2-D bar code representation of a DRI allows for

automated access to the collection without requiring the user to manually enter the

location (see current application specification para 113).)

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Johnson's Starter form 500 of fig.7-8, to access

documents that are stored on a computer, and processing the documents as indicated,

to include a machine readable pointer identifying the collection as taught by Shutt. One

of the ordinary skills in the art would have been motivated to modify this combination,

because they are from the same field of endeavor of batch coversheet (GUI) for

identifying and pressing stored document, and enables the user to generate barcode

sheets that instruct the system to take a predefined action associated with a folder

and/or document in the repository (see Shutt para 66).

*Regarding **independent claim 34:*** (as amended)

is directed toward an article of manufacture comprising one or more

recordable media having instructions stored thereon which, when executed by a

computer, cause the computer to perform a method of claim 1 and is similarly

rejected under the same rationale (see Johnson col. 2, lines 30-65).

*Regarding **independent claim 61**:*

is directed toward a system to perform a method of claim 33 and is

similarly rejected under the same rationale (see Johnson col. 2, lines 30-65).

In addition, Johnson teaches:

a marked check box locator,

(See Johnson fig. 7-8 and col. 17 line 20 through col. 18 line 10, illustrating form 500,

list content, categories, and into the following form section(s) item 508, that are included

plurality of check boxes item 520, 522, 524, and 526 associate to the plurality of check

boxes of "into the following form section(s) item 528, 530, and 532 for manipulation of a

collection through a plurality of check boxes indicating documents and a plurality of

check boxes associated with actions.)

Claims 2-3:

The rejections of claim 33 is fully incorporated, and are rejected along the

same rationale.

Claim 4: Johnson teaches:

> **wherein the collection overview comprises a plurality of**
>
> **representations of documents,**

(See Johnson fig. 7-8 and col. 17 line 20 through col. 18 line 10, illustrating form 500,

list content, categories, and into the following form section(s) item 508, that are included

plurality of check boxes item 520, 522, 524, and 526 associate to the plurality of check

boxes of "into the following form section(s) item 528, 530, and 532 for manipulation of a

collection through a plurality of check boxes indicating documents and a plurality of

check boxes associated with actions. Using the broadest reasonable interpretation, the

examiner reads the claimed *the collection overview* as equivalent to Starter form 500, to

access documents that are stored on a computer, and processing the documents as

indicated as taught by Johnson.)

In addition, Johnson does not explicitly teach, but Shutt teaches:

> **and wherein identifying at least one document based on the location**
>
> **of the at least one indication area comprises identifying the at least one**
>
> **document corresponding to a document representation indicated by the**
>
> **mark in the at least one indication area;**

(See Shutt para 62, teaching a single multi-page TIFF file may include multiple

documents. In such a file, each document is identified by a separate bar code, which

may be printed directly on the first page of the document or may be located on a

separate coversheet immediately preceding the first page of the document. Accordingly,

indexing process 22, responsively to the information provided by the bar codes,

separates the file into individual document images for storage in database. Using the

broadest reasonable interpretation, the examiner equates the *claimed the mark in the at*

least one indication area as equivalent to each document is identified by a separate bar

code as taught by Shutt. And also discloses in the current application specification,

using a 2-D bar code representation of a DRI allows for automated access to the

collection without requiring the user to manually enter the location (see current

application specification para 113).)

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Johnson's Starter form 500 of fig.7-8, to access

documents that are stored on a computer, and processing the documents as indicated,

to include a means of identifying at least one document based on the location of the at

least one indication area comprises identifying the at least one document corresponding

to a document representation indicated by the mark in the at least one indication area

as taught by Shutt. One of the ordinary skills in the art would have been motivated to

modify this combination, because they are from the same field of endeavor of batch

coversheet (GUI) for identifying and pressing stored document, and enables the user to

generate barcode sheets that instruct the system to take a predefined action associated

with a folder and/or document in the repository (see Shutt para 66).

Claim 5:

Johnson does not explicitly teach, but Shutt teaches:

wherein identifying the at least one document based on the location

of the at least one indication area having the mark therein comprises:

determining a coordinate location for the at least one indication area

having the mark therein; and determining a coordinate location for at least

one of the document representations; identifying a first document by

comparing the coordinate location for at least one indication area having

the mark therein with the coordinate location for the at least one document

representation.

(See Shutt para 62, teaching a single multi-page TIFF file may include multiple

documents. In such a file, each document is identified by a separate bar code, which

may be printed directly on the first page of the document or may be located on a

separate coversheet immediately preceding the first page of the document. Accordingly,

indexing process 22, responsively to the information provided by the bar codes,

separates the file into individual document images for storage in database. Using the

broadest reasonable interpretation, the examiner equates the claimed *a coordinate*

location for the at least one indication area having the mark therein as equivalent to

each document is identified by a separate bar code as taught by Shutt. And also

discloses in the current application specification, using a 2-D bar code representation of

a DRI allows for automated access to the collection without requiring the user to

manually enter the location (see current application specification para 113).)

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Johnson's Starter form 500 of fig.7-8, to access documents that are stored on a computer, and processing the documents as indicated, to include a means of identifying the at least one document based on the location of the at least one indication area having the mark therein comprises: determining a coordinate location for the at least one indication area having the mark therein; and determining a coordinate location for at least one of the document representations; identifying a first document by comparing the coordinate location for at least one indication area having the mark therein with the coordinate location for the at least one document representation as taught by Shutt. One of the ordinary skills in the art would have been motivated to modify this combination, because they are from the same field of endeavor of batch coversheet (GUI) for identifying and pressing stored document, and enables the user to generate barcode sheets that instruct the system to take a predefined action associated with a folder and/or document in the repository (see Shutt para 66).

Claim 6:

The rejection of claim 33 is fully incorporated, and is rejected along the same rationale.

Claim 7: Johnson teaches:

wherein the indication area is located on top of a portion of a graphic

representing at least one document in a collection.

(See, Johnson, col. 19, lines 26-31, teaching graphical content in the form of an image,

for use in identifying a document.)

Claims 8-9: Johnson teaches:

wherein the image includes a machine readable pointer to identify

the collection, wherein the machine readable pointer comprises a 2-D

barcode.

(See, Johnson, col. 1, lines 18-23, teaching the use of a bar code as a machine

readable pointer.)

Claims 10-11,

Johnson does not explicitly teach, but Shutt teaches:

wherein receiving an image of an overview of the collection

comprises capturing an image of the sheet and identifying at least one

document by reading an RFID tag embedded in the sheet, the data on the

RFID tag identifying the collection containing a document, and scanning a

sheet having an identifier and having graphical content representing a

collection of one or more media objects, wherein scanning the sheet

results in creating the image.

(See Shutt para 62, teaching a single multi-page TIFF file may include multiple

documents. In such a file, each document is identified by a separate bar code, which

may be printed directly on the first page of the document or may be located on a

separate coversheet immediately preceding the first page of the document. Accordingly,

indexing process 22, responsively to the information provided by the bar codes,

separates the file into individual document images for storage in database. Using the

broadest reasonable interpretation, the examiner equates the claimed *an RFID tag*

embedded in the sheet as equivalent to each document is identified by a separate bar

code as taught by Shutt. And also discloses in the current application specification,

using a 2-D bar code representation of a DRI allows for automated access to the

collection without requiring the user to manually enter the location (see current

application specification para 113).)

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Johnson's Starter form 500 of fig.7-8, to access

documents that are stored on a computer, and processing the documents as indicated,

to include a means of receiving an image of an overview of the collection comprises

capturing an image of the sheet and identifying at least one document by reading an

RFID tag embedded in the sheet, the data on the RFID tag identifying the collection

containing a document as taught by Shutt. One of the ordinary skills in the art would

have been motivated to modify this combination, because they are from the same field

of endeavor of batch coversheet (GUI) for identifying and pressing stored document,

and enables the user to generate barcode sheets that instruct the system to take a

predefined action associated with a folder and/or document in the repository (see Shutt

para 66).

Claim 12:

The rejection of claim 2 is fully incorporated, and is rejected along the same rationale. In addition, Johnson teaches:

wherein the plurality of actions comprise two or more of a group consisting of printing, faxing, sending by electronic mail, deleting, grouping, ungrouping, and playing.

(See also, Johnson, figures 7-9, teaching retrieving (printing), faxing, and deleting.)

Claim 13, Johnson teaches:

wherein identifying at least one action set forth in the image comprises identifying a location of a mark in an action indication area on the image.

(See, Johnson, figure 8, teaching identifying a mark in a particular location in order to indicate an action.)

Claim 14, Johnson teaches:

wherein identifying at least one action set forth in the image comprises identifying a location of a mark in an action indication area on the image.

(See, Johnson, col. 18, lines 55-63, teaching selection of all documents or a set of documents.)

Claim 15, Johnson teaches:

wherein the at least one document is part of a stored collection, and

further wherein the collection overview comprises a collection coversheet.

(See, Johnson, figure 8, and col. 18, lines 55-63, teaching the coversheet as an

overview of a collection of documents.)

Claim 16, Johnson teaches:

wherein the collection overview comprises a plurality of thumbnail

depictions of documents.

(See, Johnson, col. 19, lines 26-31, teaching graphical content in the form of an image,

for use in identifying a document. The Examiner takes official notice of the fact that

"thumbnail" images were a well known and widely used icons representing software

applications and functions and it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the

art at the time of the invention to use a thumbnail representation of a document on a

document image index coversheet for purposes of giving visual cues to the user as to

the content of the documents represented. See, Bloomberg (U.S. Patent 5,761,686,

issued June 2, 1998), col. 3, lines 7-31, teaching that the use of thumbnail images as

icons representing documents in applications and functions was well known in the art at

the time of the invention.)

Claim 17, Johnson does not explicitly teach, but Shutt teaches:

wherein the collection coversheet comprises a machine-readable

collection identifier specifying a storage location for the collection, the

method further comprising, prior to performing at least one action,

retrieving the at least one document from the storage location.

(See Shutt para 62, teaching a single multi-page TIFF file may include multiple

documents. In such a file, each document is identified by a separate bar code, which

may be printed directly on the first page of the document or may be located on a

separate coversheet immediately preceding the first page of the document. Accordingly,

indexing process 22, responsively to the information provided by the bar codes,

separates the file into individual document images for storage in database. Using the

broadest reasonable interpretation, the examiner equates the claimed a machine-

readable collection identifier specifying a storage location as equivalent to each stored

document is identified by a separate bar code as taught by Shutt. And also discloses in

the current application specification, using a 2-D bar code representation of a DRI

allows for automated access to the collection without requiring the user to manually

enter the location (see current application specification para 113).)

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Johnson's Starter form 500 of fig.7-8, to access

documents that are stored on a computer, and processing the documents as indicated,

to include a means of wherein the collection coversheet comprises a machine-readable

collection identifier specifying a storage location for the collection, the method further

comprising, prior to performing at least one action, retrieving the at least one document

from the storage location as taught by Shutt. One of the ordinary skills in the art would

have been motivated to modify this combination, because they are from the same field

of endeavor of batch coversheet (GUI) for identifying and pressing stored document,

and enables the user to generate barcode sheets that instruct the system to take a

predefined action associated with a folder and/or document in the repository (see Shutt

para 66).

Claim 18, Johnson teaches:

wherein the collection overview comprises a list of documents.

(See, Johnson, col. 18, lines 64-68, teaching creation of a list of documents as a

document index.)

Claim 19, Johnson teaches:

wherein the collection overview comprises a plurality of thumbnail

depictions of documents.

(See, Johnson, col. 19, lines 26-31, teaching graphical content in the form of an image,

for use in identifying a document. The Examiner takes official notice of the fact that

"thumbnail" images were a well known and widely used icons representing software

applications and functions and it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the

art at the time of the invention to use a thumbnail representation of a document on a

document image index coversheet for purposes of giving visual cues to the user as to

the content of the documents represented. See, Bloomberg (U.S. Patent 5,761,686,

issued June 2, 1998), col. 3, lines 7-31, teaching that the use of thumbnail images as

icons representing documents in applications and functions was well known in the art at

the time of the invention.)

Claim 20, Johnson teaches:

wherein the collection overview comprises a plurality of icons

representing documents.

(See, Johnson, col. 19, lines 26-31, teaching graphical content in the form of an image,

for use in identifying a document, each graphic being an icon.)

Claim 21, Johnson teaches:

wherein the at least one action specifies a grouping action, and

wherein the at least one document comprises two or more documents, and

wherein performing the at least one action comprises grouping the two or

more documents.

(See, Johnson, figures 7-9, teaching grouping of documents and actions relating to

groups, noting that marking any of the several documents listed would create a group.)

Claim 22, Johnson teaches:

wherein grouping the two or more documents comprises forming a

sub-collection comprising the two or more documents.

(See, Johnson, figures 7-9, teaching grouping of documents and actions relating to

groups, noting that marking any of the several documents listed would create a sub-

collection of the entire list.)

Claim 23, Johnson teaches:

> **wherein the at least one action comprises transmitting the at least**
>
> **one document to a destination, the method further comprising determining**
>
> **a destination.**

(See, Johnson, figures 8, elements 590 and 594, teaching transmitting a document to a determined destination.)

Claim 24, Johnson teaches:

> **wherein determining a destination comprises receiving user input**
>
> **specifying a destination.**

(See, Johnson, figures 8, elements 590 and 594, teaching transmitting a document to a user input determined destination.)

Claim 25, Johnson teaches:

> **wherein determining a destination comprises reading an indicator of**
>
> **a destination from the image.**

(See, Johnson, figure 11, elements 262 and 264, teaching transmitting a document to a determined destination group of recipients.)

Claim 26, Johnson teaches:

> **wherein determining a destination comprises reading an indicator of**
>
> **a destination from an action indication area in the image.**

(See, Johnson, figure 11, elements 262 and 264, teaching an action indication area of

the image, being the identified check boxes.)

Claim 27 Johnson teaches:

> **wherein determining a destination comprises determining at least**
>
> **one selected from the group consisting of an e-mail address; a fax number;**
>
> **a uniform resource locator; a telephone number; and a mailing address.**

(See, Johnson, figures 8, element 594, for indicating a recipients fax number, and

Also see Johnson, figure 11, elements 262 and 264, teaching an action

indication area of the image, being the identified check boxes.)

Claim 28, Johnson teaches:

> **wherein receiving the image of a document index comprises**
>
> **receiving an e-mail message containing the image of the document index.**

(See, Johnson, col. 22, lines 29-39, teaching that the document may be sent via e-mail.)

Claim 29, Johnson teaches:

wherein receiving the image of a document index comprises

receiving a fax message containing the image of the document index.

(See, Johnson, col. 22, lines 29-39, teaching that the document may be sent via fax.)

Claim 31,

Johnson does not explicitly teach, but Shutt teaches:

wherein the machine readable identifier comprises an identifier

specifying a storage location, and the method further comprising, prior to

performing the at least one action, retrieving the at least one document

from the storage location.

(See Shutt para 62, teaching a single multi-page TIFF file may include multiple

documents. In such a file, each document is identified by a separate bar code, which

may be printed directly on the first page of the document or may be located on a

separate coversheet immediately preceding the first page of the document. Accordingly,

indexing process 22, responsively to the information provided by the bar codes,

separates the file into individual document images for storage in database. Using the

broadest reasonable interpretation, the examiner equates the claimed *the machine*

readable identifier as equivalent to each stored document is identified by a separate bar

code as taught by Shutt. And also discloses in the current application specification,

using a 2-D bar code representation of a DRI allows for automated access to the

collection without requiring the user to manually enter the location (see current

application specification para 113).)

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Johnson's Starter form 500 of fig.7-8, to access

documents that are stored on a computer, and processing the documents as indicated,

to include a means of wherein the machine readable identifier comprises an identifier

specifying a storage location, and the method further comprising, prior to performing the

at least one action, retrieving the at least one document from the storage location as

taught by Shutt. One of the ordinary skills in the art would have been motivated to

modify this combination, because they are from the same field of endeavor of batch

coversheet (GUI) for identifying and pressing stored document, and enables the user to

generate barcode sheets that instruct the system to take a predefined action associated

with a folder and/or document in the repository (see Shutt para 66).

Claim 32, Johnson teaches:

> **prior to performing the at least one action, retrieving the at least one**
>
> **document from a storage device.**

(See Johnson col. 16 lines 20-25, teaching a Starter Form 500 can be created in

advance by a user through a form editor user interface provided by windows instructions

304. The form editor can allow the user to create a form with one or more sections,

each for requesting a respective type of transaction, such as Send, Retrieve, Store, List

Contents, and Delete.)

Claims 35-38 respectively:

The rejection of claims 2, 3, 6, and 7 respectively, fully incorporated, and

are rejected along the same rationale.

Claims 39:

The rejection of claim 10 fully incorporated, and is rejected along the

same rationale.

Claims 40-44 (respectively):

The rejection of claims 11-15 respectively, fully incorporated, and are

rejected along the same rationale.

Claims 45-50 (respectively):

The rejection of claims 15-20 respectively, fully incorporated, and are

rejected along the same rationale.

Claims 51-60 (respectively):

The rejection of claims 23-32 respectively, fully incorporated and are

rejected along the same rationale

Claims 62-63, 64, and 66-67 (respectively):

The rejection of claims 6, 7, 11,14, and 3 respectively, fully incorporated,

and are rejected along the same rationale.

Claims 68-71:

The rejection of claims 15, 15, 16, and 17 respectively, fully incorporated,

and are rejected along the same rationale.

Claim 72:

The rejection of claim 5, fully incorporated, and is rejected along the same

rationale.

Claims 73-77:

The rejection of claims 18, 16, 23, and 28 respectively, fully incorporated,

and are rejected along the same rationale.

Claim 30 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Johnson, et al. (US005267303A, issued November 30, 1993) [hereinafter "Johnson"],

in view of **Shutt,** et al. (US 20060126101A1, filed February 06, 2003) [hereinafter

"Shutt"], further in view of **Cooper,** et al. (U.S. Patent 5,680,223, issued October 21,

1997) [hereinafter "Cooper"].

Claim 30: Johnson teaches:

determining the at least one action on an action indication area.

(See Johnson fig. 7-8 and col. 17 line 20 through col. 18 line 10, illustrating form 500,

list content, categories, and into the following form section(s) item 508, that are included

plurality of check boxes item 520, 522, 524, and 526 associate to the plurality of check

boxes of "into the following form section(s) item 528, 530, and 532 for manipulation of a

collection through a plurality of check boxes indicating documents and a plurality of

check boxes associated with actions.

In addition Johnson and Shutt do not explicitly teach, but cooper teaches:

determining the at least one action by performing optical character

recognition on an action indication area.

(See, Cooper, col. 1, line 8 through col. 18, line 65, specifically, col. 4, lines 23-38,

teaching OCR.

Also see Cooper at Column 5, lines 45-55, discloses a form editor 16, a scanner

18, an image communication means 20 (such as a facsimile or "fax" machine), and a

storage device 22 (such as a magnetic, optical or electrical storage device), and also

provides a job data base, and a job scheduler to control the performing of certain tasks

by the computer. The job database is comprised of defined entries called actions; each

action having a link to other actions and/or to entries in a second database referred to

as an information database, which functions primarily as a repository for data used by,

inter alia, the job database. An action entry will include data indicating the action's

function, and data that can be used in scheduling performance or execution of the

action's function. Each task will have at least one action associated with it. A list of

possible actions with their definitions is given in as discloses in Column 14, Line 10 →

Column15, Line 35.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have modified Johnson and Shutt teaching of Starter form 500 of

fig.7-8, to access documents that are stored on a computer, and Shutt retrieving the at

least one document from the storage location using barcode identifier, to include a

means of determining the at least one action by performing optical character recognition

on an action indication area as taught by Cooper. One of the ordinary skills in the art

would have been motivated to modify this combination, because they are from the same

field of endeavor of document management by cover sheets. In addition, both Johnson

and Cooper are named inventors in each of the references and the patents are both

assigned to the same Assignee. The suggestion or motivation for the combination is

that the OCR is but an additional functionality to very similar document management

inventions with similar inventors on the two patents. Therefore, it would have been

obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the

teachings of Johnson and Cooper to result in the claim specified in claim 30.)

It is noted that any citations to specific, pages, columns, lines, or figures in

the prior art references and any interpretation of the references should not be

considered to be limiting in any way. A reference is relevant for all it contains and may

be relied upon for all that it would have reasonably suggested to one having ordinary

skill in the art. See, MPEP 2123.

Response to Argument

<u>Brief description of cited prior arts:</u>

Johnson et al. discloses a method wherein the user can mark a check box on the

starter form indicating a set of items to request an automatically created form for

requesting an operation on one of the set of items. In response, the processor

automatically creates a form with a field for each item in the indicated set. When an

item' s field is marked on the automatically created form, the processor responds by

performing the operation in relation to the indicated item. The automatically created

form, includes a list of items in relation to which an operation can be performed. The

data defining the image of the requesting form also includes information indicating an

image destination, and the automatically created form is transmitted to the indicated

destination. (See Johnson at the Abstract.)

Shutt et al. provides a single multi-page TIFF file may include multiple documents. In

such a file, each document is identified by a separate bar code, which may be printed

directly on the first page of the document or may be located on a separate coversheet

immediately preceding the first page of the document. Accordingly, indexing process 22,

responsively to the information provided by the bar codes, separates the file into

individual document images for storage in database 4. (Para 62), Also see Shutt at

Page 5 Para 66, discloses using barcodes sheets for identification of documents, the

system enables the user to generate barcode sheets that instruct the system to take A

PREDEFINE ACTION associated with a folder and/or document in the

repository; and Shutt at Page 5 Para 67-72 and Fig 5-10, discloses in details the coversheet barcode methodology, for example a barcodes are generated in sets. The first barcode in any set, which is referred to as the "header barcode," describes what the other barcodes contain. Preferably, a single page should only contain a single barcode set. Barcode sheets that are associated with one or more following pages are often referred to as " coversheets." The definition of each barcode template also associates it with one or more value attributes, each of which describes a particular data element contained in the subsequent barcodes.

Cooper et al, discloses a form editor 16, a scanner 18, an image communication means 20 (such as a facsimile or "fax" machine), and a storage device 22 (such as a magnetic, optical or electrical storage device), (See Cooper at Column 5, lines 45-55), and Cooper provides a job data base, and a job scheduler to control the performing of certain tasks by the computer. The job database is comprised of defined entries called actions; each action having a link to other actions and/or to entries in a second database referred to as an information database, which functions primarily as a repository for data used by, inter alia, the job database. An action entry will include data indicating the action's function, and data that can be used in scheduling performance or execution of the action's function. Each task will have at least one action associated with it. A list of possible actions with their definitions is given in as discloses in Column 14, Line 10 → Column15, Line 35.

Response to Arguments:

Applicant's arguments filed 09/13/2007 have been fully considered but they are

not persuasive. Beginning on page 16 of the Remarks (hereinafter the remarks),

Applicant argues the following issues, which are accordingly addressed below.

Appellant argues, claims 1-29, 31-64, and 66-77 improperly rejected under 35 USC 103

(a) as being unpatentable over Johnson, in view of Shutt, because of the following:

- Jacobson and Shutt fail to teach (as amended) *"identifying at least one*

  document, wherein the identifying the at least one action based on the second

  plurality the indication areas in the image and the identifying the at least one

  document is performed based on the first plurality of the indication areas is in the

  image; and performing the at least one action on the at least one document in

  response to the identifying the at least one action and the at least one document

  from the image. (See the remarks Pages 16-18 Top Half)

For purposes of responding to the remarks, the examiner will assume that Applicant is

arguing for the patentability of Claim 1.

The examiner respectfully disagrees.

As discuss in the above, The Applicant has amended the claims to replace the

phrase, "**check boxes**" with "**the indication areas in the image** " (as amended).

Under the broadest reasonable interpretation of the claim consistent with the

Appellant Specification, such as "using collection coversheets with check boxes is

disclosed. The collection coversheet may use thumbnails to represent documents and

optionally may have titles, which are unrelated to their filenames. In one embodiment, a

user selects one or more check boxes on a collection coversheet to identify, by location

on the coversheet, target documents within a previously stored collection of

documents." see the Applicant Specification at Page 9 Par 18. The claimed "claimed

indication areas" is reasonably interpreted equivalent to "**check boxes**".

As discuss in the above Office Action, specifically **Johnson** et al. discloses a

method wherein the user can mark a check box on the starter form indicating a set of

items to request an automatically created form for requesting an operation on one of the

set of items. In response, the processor automatically creates a form with a field for

each item in the indicated set. When an item' s field is marked on the automatically

created form, the processor responds by performing the operation in relation to the

indicated item. The automatically created form, includes a list of items in relation to

which an operation can be performed. The data defining the image of the requesting

form also includes information indicating an image destination, and the automatically

created form is transmitted to the indicated destination. (See Johnson at the Abstract.)

In view of **Shutt** et al, discloses, the "batch" coversheet may be used in

conjunction with "document separator" coversheets (See Shutt para 67). Also, Shutt

discloses at para 59, a transaction party may submit a document to the repository in any

suitable format, for example an image or other electronic file generated by fax, scan or

electronic download. For each document, the transaction party provides a document

type and destination folder, although additional information may also be provided. The

transaction party may submit the document image in a multi-page TIFF format,

optionally using bar codes to provide required information such as the document type

and the destination folder.

Also, see Shutt para 62, teaching a single multi-page TIFF file may include

multiple documents. In such a file, each document is identified by *a separate bar code*,

which may be printed directly on the first page of the document or may be located on a

separate coversheet immediately preceding the first page of the document. Accordingly,

indexing process 22, responsively to the information provided by the bar codes,

separates the file into individual document images for storage in database.

Also, see Shutt fig. 4 and 6 and para 64-66, shows in FIG. 4, from that screen,

the user checks desired document types 38 and clicks on a submit link 42, which

causes the fax coversheets shown in FIG. 5, to be generated in the browser. At that

point, the user simply prints the coversheets from their browser. Then using barcodes

sheets for identification of documents, the system enables the user to generate barcode

sheets that instruct the system to take a predefined action associated with a folder

and/or document in the repository. For example, a user can generate a barcode sheet

that instructs the system to send an email notification indicating that a particular folder

contains all documents necessary for the business transaction. This type of barcode

sheet is referred to as an "action barcode sheet" and is typically included as the last

page of a fax containing documents and coversheet.

Also the Applicant argues:

- *It would be impermissible hindsight, based on applicant's own disclosure, to*

  combine Johnson and Shutt. (See the remarks Page 18 Para 1).

The Examiner disagrees.

In response to applicant's argument that the examiner's conclusion of

obviousness is based upon improper hindsight reasoning, it must be recognized that

any judgment on obviousness is in a sense necessarily a reconstruction based upon

hindsight reasoning. But so long as it takes into account only knowledge which was

within the level of ordinary skill at the time the claimed invention was made, and does

not include knowledge gleaned only from the applicant's disclosure, such a

reconstruction is proper. See *In re McLaughlin*, 443 F.2d 1392, 170 USPQ 209 (CCPA

1971).

In this current Application, under the broadest reasonable interpretation of the

claim consistent with the Appellant Specification, such as *"using collection coversheets*

with check boxes is disclosed. The collection coversheet may use thumbnails to

represent documents and optionally may have titles, which are unrelated to their

filenames. In one embodiment, a user selects one or more check boxes on a collection

coversheet to identify, by location on the coversheet, target documents within a

previously stored collection of documents." see the Applicant Specification at Page 9

Par 18. The claimed "claimed **indication areas"** is reasonably interpreted equivalent to

"***check boxes***".

Using the broadest reasonable interpretation, and cites evidences above, the Examiner had found that Johnson and Shutt have taught all the limitation of claims 1-29, 31-64, and 65-77 and the Examiner has established "some motivation or suggestion to combine the prior art teachings" can be found in the prior art, the nature of the problem, or the knowledge of a person having ordinary skill in the art. See, e.g., Al-Site Corp. v. VSI Int'l, Inc., 174 F. 3d 1308, 1323–1324 (CA Fed. 1999). KSR challenges that test, or at least its application in this case. See 119 Fed. Appx. 282, 286–290 (CA Fed. 2005).

Accordingly, for at least all the above evidence, therefore the Examiner respectfully maintains the rejection of claims 29, 31-64, and 65-77.

Appellant argues, claim 30 improperly rejected under 35 USC 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Johnson, in view of Shutt, further in view of Cooper because of the following:

- It would be "*impermissible hindsight, based on applicant's own disclosure*", to combine Johnson, Shutt, and Cooper, because, detecting interruptions of Shutt were combined with the method of labeling of the document of Cooper, such a combination would still "*lack identifying at least one action set forth in the image*"; and "*identifying at least one document, wherein the identifying the at least one action is performed based on the second plurality of the indication areas in the image and the identifying the at least one document is performed based on the first plurality of the indication areas in the same image; and performing the at*

least one action on the at least one document in response to the identifying the at

least one action and the at least one document from the same image," as recited

in amended claim 1- See the remarks Page 18 Bottom Half → Page 20.

For purposes of responding to the remarks, the examiner will assume that Applicant is

arguing for the patentability of Claim 1.

     The examiner respectfully disagrees.

     As discuss above, Firstly, in response to applicant's argument that the

examiner's conclusion of obviousness is based upon improper hindsight reasoning, it

must be recognized that any judgment on obviousness is in a sense necessarily a

reconstruction based upon hindsight reasoning. But so long as it takes into account

only knowledge which was within the level of ordinary skill at the time the claimed

invention was made, and does not include knowledge gleaned only from the applicant's

disclosure, such a reconstruction is proper. See *In re McLaughlin*, 443 F.2d 1392, 170

USPQ 209 (CCPA 1971).

     Secondly, in response to applicant's argument that Johnson, Shutt, and Cooper

fail to teach, "identifying at least one action set forth in the image".

     Specially, **Johnson** et al. discloses a method wherein the user can mark a check

box on the starter form indicating a set of items to request an automatically created form

for requesting an operation on one of the set of items. (See Johnson at the Abstract.)

In view of **Shutt,** who discloses a single multi-page TIFF file may include multiple

documents. In such a file, each document is identified by a separate bar code, which

may be printed directly on the first page of the document or may be located on a

separate coversheet immediately preceding the first page of the document. Accordingly,

indexing process 22, responsively to the information provided by the bar codes,

separates the file into individual document images for storage in database 4. (Para 62),

Also see Shutt at Page 5 Para 67-72 and Fig 5-10, discloses Barcode sheets that are

associated with one or more following pages are often referred to as " coversheets."

The definition of each barcode template also associates it with one or more value

attributes, each of which describes a particular data element contained in the

subsequent barcodes. Also, (See Shutt at Page 5 Para 66, discloses using barcodes

sheets for identification of documents, the system enables the user to generate barcode

sheets that instruct the system to take A PREDEFINE ACTION associated with a folder

and/or document in the

repository.)

    And further in view of **Cooper** et al, discloses a form editor 16, a scanner 18, an

image communication means 20 (such as a facsimile or "fax" machine), and a storage

device 22 (such as a magnetic, optical or electrical storage device), (See Cooper at

Column 5, lines 45-55), and Cooper provides a job data base, and a job scheduler to

control the performing of certain tasks by the computer. The job database is comprised

of defined entries called actions; each action having a link to other actions and/or to

entries in a second database referred to as an information database, which functions

primarily as a repository for data used by, inter alia, the job database. An action entry

will include data indicating the action's function, and data that can be used in scheduling

performance or execution of the action's function. EACH TASK HAVE AT LEAST ONE

ACTIONS WITH IT. A list of possible actions with their definitions is given in as

discloses in Column 14, Line 10 → Column15, Line 35.

Using the broadest reasonable interpretation, and cites evidences above, the

Examiner had found that Johnson and Shutt have taught all the limitation of claim 30

and the Examiner has established "some motivation or suggestion to combine the prior

art teachings" can be found in the prior art, the nature of the problem, or the knowledge

of a person having ordinary skill in the art. See, e.g., Al-Site Corp. v. VSI Int'l, Inc., 174 F. 3d

1308, 1323–1324 (CA Fed. 1999). KSR challenges that test, or at least its application in this

case. See 119 Fed. Appx. 282, 286–290 (CA Fed. 2005).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the

time of the invention to combine the teachings of Johnson, Shutt and Cooper to result in

the claim specified in claim 30.

Accordingly, for at least all the above evidence, therefore the Examiner

respectfully maintains the rejection of claims 1-64, and 66-77 at least at this time.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time

policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later

than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Quoc A. Tran whose telephone number is 571-272-

8664. The examiner can normally be reached on 9AM - 5PM EST. If attempts to reach

the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Doug Hutton

can be reached on 571-272-4137. The fax phone number for the organization where

this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

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For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2176
11/19/2007

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